

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A method of visualizing business agreement interactions, the
2 method comprising:
3 dividing parties into at least three types;
4 displaying one or more parties of a first type as nodes in a first region of a view window;
5 displaying one or more parties of a second type as nodes in a second region of the view
6 window;
7 displaying one or more parties of a third type as nodes in a third region of the view
8 window, wherein the third region is at least substantially between the first and second ~~region~~
9 regions; and
10 displaying agreements between parties as lines between corresponding nodes.
- 1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more parties of the first type are
2 suppliers for the one or more parties of the third type.
- 1 3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the one or more parties of the second type are
2 customers for the one or more parties of the third type.
- 1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first region is an arc of a circle, and
2 wherein the second region is an opposing arc of the circle.
- 1 5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the third region is a circle diameter that
2 separates the first and second regions.
- 1 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the third region is a line separating the first
2 and second regions.

1 7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said lines are displayed with at
2 least one characteristic indicative of whether a violation of a corresponding one of the
3 agreements has occurred.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said at least one characteristic is color.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said at least one characteristic is animation.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said at least one characteristic is further
2 indicative of a violation severity.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 displaying a hierarchical tree of business agreement information; and
3 highlighting associated items in the view window as a user selects items in the
4 hierarchical tree.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 displaying agreement conditions between the one or more parties of the first type and a
3 particular party of the third type as parallel lines in one window region;
4 displaying agreement conditions between the one or more parties of the second type and
5 the particular party of the third type as parallel lines in a second window region; and
6 changing one or more of the parallel lines as a function of time to display violations as a
7 function of time.

- 1 13. (Original) A method of visualizing business agreement interactions, the method
2 comprising:
3 displaying agreement conditions between a first party and one or more parties of a first
4 type as one or more noncrossing groups of parallel lines in one region of a view window; and
5 displaying agreement conditions between the first party and one or more parties of a
6 second type as one or more noncrossing groups of parallel lines in a second region of a view
7 window,
8 wherein said lines are displayed with at least one characteristic indicative of whether a
9 violation of a represented agreement condition has occurred.
- 1 14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the first party is represented by a line
2 separating the first region from the second region.
- 1 15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one characteristic is color.
- 1 16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said displaying actions are animated to show
2 a violation occurrence sequence over time.
- 1 17. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one characteristic is further
2 indicative of a violation severity.
- 1 18. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising changing the view window as a
2 function of time to display a time sequence of violations.
- 1 19. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein parties of the first type are suppliers of the
2 first party, and wherein parties of the second type are customers of the second party.
- 1 20. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein agreement conditions between the parties
2 are shown are shown as a time series to indicate an order in which violations occur.

1 21. (Currently Amended) ~~An information carrier~~ A computer-readable storage medium
2 configured to provide software for visualizing business agreement interactions to a computer,
3 wherein the software ~~configures~~ when executed causes the computer to:
4 divide parties into at least three types;
5 display one or more parties of a first type as nodes in a first region of a view window;
6 display one or more parties of a second type as nodes in a second region of the view
7 window;
8 display one or more parties of a third type as nodes in a third region of the view window,
9 wherein the third region is at least substantially between the first and second ~~region~~ regions; and
10 display agreements between parties as lines between corresponding nodes.

1 22. (Original) The medium of claim 21, wherein the one or more parties of the first type are
2 suppliers for the one or more parties of the third type, and wherein the one or more parties of the
3 second type are customers for the one or more parties of the third type.

1 23. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 21, wherein said lines are displayed with at
2 least one characteristic indicative of whether a violation of a corresponding one of the
3 agreements has occurred.

1 24. (Original) The medium of claim 21, wherein the software further configures the
2 computer to:
3 display agreement conditions between the one or more parties of the first type and a
4 particular party of the third type as parallel lines in one window region;
5 display agreement conditions between the one or more parties of the second type and the
6 particular party of the third type as parallel lines in a second window region; and
7 change one or more of the parallel lines as a function of time to display violations as a
8 function of time.

1 25. (Currently Amended) ~~An information carrier~~ A computer-readable storage medium
2 configured to provide software for visualizing business agreement interactions to a computer,
3 wherein the software ~~configures~~ when executed causes the computer to:
4 display agreement conditions between a first party and one or more parties of a first type
5 as one or more noncrossing groups of parallel lines in one region of a view window; and
6 display agreement conditions between the first party and one or more parties of a second
7 type as one or more noncrossing groups of parallel lines in a second region of a view window,
8 wherein said lines are displayed with at least one characteristic indicative of whether a
9 violation of a represented agreement condition has occurred.

1 26. (Original) The medium of claim 25, wherein the first party is represented by a line
2 separating the first region from the second region.